

LEE KUAN YEW MODEL STUDENT AWARD 2023 RECIPIENT PROFILE
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Name: Natasha Yap Shu Hui
Course: *Higher Nitec* in Events Management
College: ITE College Central

Going the Extra Mile

Natasha's aspiration in wanting to be a better version of herself is something she has developed over the years. It is also the reason Natasha exudes passion and enthusiasm in everything she does, whether as a project leader, Student Council President or emcee. However, the drive to give her all in every role can be tough at times.

Citing a particularly challenging period, Natasha said she had to deal with the pressure of managing relations among the student councillors, maintaining her high standards, running events, doing schoolwork, and recovering from COVID – all at the same time! She is very thankful for a close network of family, friends and lecturers who have shown her tremendous support.

Natasha has no regrets though, as the experience has made her more resilient. Despite undertaking multiple roles and dealing with pandemic-related challenges, Natasha found time to help her classmates, take on community work and excel academically. Her can-do spirit has certainly impressed everyone who knows her – she is indeed a model student and leader.

From the Heart

“Cherish the people who are close to you and cherish the years you have in ITE. It's very different when you go on to a polytechnic – you won't have lecturers who take care of you the way they do in ITE. So enjoy what you do and your time here!”

Life after ITE

Natasha is pursuing a Diploma in Business Management at Nanyang Polytechnic.

Top Achievements

- Natasha is the President of ITE College Central's Student Council. She oversaw five committees and led a team of 20 Executive Committee members during her tenure.
- As Student Council President, she represented ITE in several high-level events, such as Singapore Perspective 2022, Youth Leadership Dialogue, Global Youth Leaders' Summit, and Youth Radicalisation Dialogue 2022.
- Natasha was also one of eight students helping at the Singapore International Water Week 2022. As Area Manager, she spearheaded programmes and activities at her assigned level.
- Impressed with her positive attitude and leadership qualities, Natasha was invited to participate in the ACE programme and US Embassy-ITE Alumni Mentoring Programme.
- Natasha has won several awards during her two years in ITE, including the Service Star Award (Gold), EAGLES Award and Edusave Merit Bursary in 2022. She was also on the Directors' List for three semesters and won the Platinum Award for CCA.

LEE KUAN YEW MODEL STUDENT AWARD 2023 RECIPIENT PROFILE
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Name: Koh Qi Fang
Course: Nitec in Web Applications
College: ITE College Central

She's Fang-tastic

After Koh Qi Fang lost her mother to illness at a young age, she had to help care for her younger brother and aged grandmother. Her father, being the sole breadwinner, had to work long hours. Despite the challenges, Qi Fang remains positive and motivated. In fact, it was because of her experience and financial situation that she learnt to be more empathetic and compassionate towards others.

A hardworking and resilient worker, Qi Fang is an outstanding student. She strongly believes in giving back to the community and volunteered in several community activities, such as making bag charms and mask straps for needy children and helping out with kitchen duties under the Willing Hearts programme. When Qi Fang and her teammates won top prizes in two entrepreneurship competitions, she even donated 10 per cent of their cash prize to charity.

Her generosity extends to her classmates as well. Aside from coaching weaker students, she sacrificed personal time and prepared revision notes for those taking a retest. From excelling in her work to having such a big heart, Qi Fang embodies the qualities of a role model for her peers.

From the Heart

"Keep an open heart and mind to discover new things and persevere. Eventually, you will reach your goal one day so have fun and enjoy the process!"

Life after ITE

Qi Fang is pursuing a Diploma in Information Technology at Nanyang Polytechnic. She hopes to enter the IT sector in future.

Top Achievements

- Qi Fang achieved a perfect Grade Point Average of 4.0 and received several awards for her outstanding performance in and out of class, including the Edusave Merit Bursary in 2021 and 2022, the Edusave EAGLES Award in 2021, and Outstanding Graduate 2022.
- Qi Fang and her team took part in the Enterprise Challenge and ITE-NTU #startable competitions in 2022. Their project - selling customised resin and ribbon handicrafts with the option to incorporate NFC technology and GPS trackers - won the top prizes in both competitions.
- During her internship, Qi Fang impressed her supervisor with her good attitude, proactiveness and spontaneity at work. She was offered a chance to continue at the company under the Work-Study Diploma programme.
- Having experienced financial difficulties and gone through tough times, Qi Fang has a heart for the less fortunate. She had taken the initiative to contact organisations such as ARTDIS (Singapore) Ltd [formerly Very Special Arts Singapore] and Darul Ihsan Orphanage to volunteer her services. This was on top of other community events she had taken part in with her school.

LEE KUAN YEW MODEL STUDENT AWARD 2023 RECIPIENT PROFILE
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Name: Fong Jia Cheng
Course: *Higher Nitec* in Human Resource & Administration
College: ITE College Central

The Young Change Maker

Fong Jia Cheng has worked part-time in over 10 different jobs since he was a secondary school student. Fiercely independent and resilient, he earns his own keep and manages his matters by himself. Before his elder brother started working, his mother was the sole breadwinner. He continues to work part-time to support his daily expenses.

Coming from the Express stream, Jia Cheng was initially disappointed to enter ITE. However, ITE helped him grow beyond his expectations. He discovered his passion for sustainability when his lecturers encouraged him to take up the National Youth Council (NYC) Young ChangeMaker grant. Under this grant, he organised an upcycling and recycling workshop and a Bring-Your-Own-Bottle campaign for his schoolmates. A recipient of the ITE Outstanding Green Innovation Award, he strongly believes that youths like him can contribute to solving environmental problems.

Jia Cheng is thankful for the chance to lead projects and pick up skills in event, project and finance management. Despite working part-time, he wants to give back to society. He has never allowed his circumstances to limit his potential and willpower to make a difference. Be it volunteering for events or taking on leadership roles in CCA, Jia Cheng never shies away from opportunities to make a positive impact on his peers and surroundings.

From the Heart

"I have learned a lot and grown tremendously in ITE. ITE has given me a strong foundation for my polytechnic studies. My two years in ITE have been incredibly meaningful. I received help from society and I want to give back. I want to continue pursuing my passion for sustainability issues in the polytechnic and at work in future. "

Life after ITE

- Jia Cheng is now taking the Common Business Programme at Ngee Ann Polytechnic. He hopes to work in human resource and promote environmental practices in his future workplace.

Top Achievements

- Jia Cheng was featured on NYC's YouTube page for his advocacy work in reducing single-use plastics. At a NYC event, he received excellent feedback on facilitating conversations on sustainability. His quote was even included in a Channel NewsAsia article on the event.
- He was on Director's List in 2021 & 2022 and received the Edusave Merit Bursary and Edusave Certificate of Academic Achievement.
- Jia Cheng served as a member of ITE College Central's Student Council and a member of the College's HR Club.
- Of the awards he received, Jia Cheng is most pleased with the ITE Service Star Diamond Award 2022. He sees the achievement as a reflection of his progress in ITE since receiving the ITE Service Star Gold Award 2021.

LEE KUAN YEW MODEL STUDENT AWARD 2023 RECIPIENT PROFILE
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Name: Malcolm Chew Jia Rui
Course: Nitec in Nursing
College: ITE College East

Confidence to Overcome

Twenty-two-year-old Malcolm's life has not been easy. Growing up, his family faced financial challenges daily and struggled to make ends meet. As the eldest sibling with two younger brothers and a single mother, Malcolm felt a sense of responsibility to take care of his family and prioritise their welfare over his education. He paused his studies for a year after his 'N' levels to work before serving National Service (NS).

In spite of obstacles, Malcolm demonstrated unwavering determination in his tasks. He excelled in NS, earning the Best Soldier Award despite being the youngest NS man. During this time, he started volunteering to befriend elderly residents who live alone. Through interactions with them, he realised healthcare was a practical and essential way to help them.

His passion for helping others led him to pursue nursing in ITE while working part-time at a café. After completing an internship with a hospital, Malcolm began working as a locum nurse once a week and is still working there today. Hence, he managed to reduce his family's financial burden while deepening his skills.

Malcolm's story is one of inspiration and hope. He has shown that with perseverance, one can overcome difficult circumstances and achieve success. His ability to balance his studies, the leadership role as President of the Singapore Nurses Association (Student Chapter at ITE), family commitments, and a part-time job is a testament to his resilience.

From the Heart

“Even if I was given a choice to live another life without the challenges I have encountered, I would say ‘no’. Resilience cannot be taught. You learn it as you go through each challenge. Because of my circumstances, I have had to think like an adult earlier than my peers do, and to be more mature and resourceful. When I was younger, I used to feel worried and anxious. Now, I am confident that I can triumph through any difficulties that come my way.”

Life after ITE

- Malcolm is now taking the Diploma in Nursing course at Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

Top Achievements

- Malcolm was conferred the Top Nursing Student Award for his cohort. He also received the Top of School Award (School of Applied & Health Sciences) and the ITE College East Outstanding Student Award. He was on the Director's List from 2021 to 2022.
- He received numerous awards such as the NTUC Health Award (Second place in Best Clinical Nurse category), Kwang Tang Hui Kuan Student Resilience Award 2022, Edusave Merit Bursary and Certificate of Academic Achievement 2022, EAGLES 2022, Edusave Character Award 2022, ITE Gold Service Star Award 2021 & 2022, ITE CCA Medal Award 2022 and Platinum CCA Award 2022.

LEE KUAN YEW MODEL STUDENT AWARD 2023 RECIPIENT PROFILE
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Name: Lim Meow Kiang
Course: Nitec in Electronics, Computer Networking and Communications
College: ITE College East

Technology Enthusiast

Lim Meow Kiang has always been fascinated by how the combination of hardware and software can result in useful computer applications. In secondary school, she had the chance to explore computer systems and electrical wiring through participation in skills workshops organised by ITE. The positive firsthand experience in skills-based learning prompted her to pursue studies in technology, specifically in ITE.

Meow Kiang thrived in the ITE environment. As Vice Chairman of the Student Well-Being Committee in Student Council, she took the lead in planning many initiatives, such as Tray Return Campaign, Know Cleaner's Day, Beach Cleaning and Environmental & Mental Health events. Through such activities, she picked up leadership and social skills. A natural leader, she rallied her team in an energy-saving project that performed well in two competitions.

Meow Kiang is also passionate about giving back to the community. Among several volunteering pursuits, Meow Kiang served in 'Coding Games for Kids 2022' as a teacher and facilitator. Assiduous and highly reliable, Meow Kiang is well liked by her lecturers and peers. She aims to make the most of every opportunity that comes her way.

From the Heart

"When I entered ITE, I realised that regardless of who you are or how you are doing, the lecturers will offer every possible learning opportunity to you. I'm really blessed for that. Although I struggled a little bit due to high expectations of me being a 'top' student in class, I know that it was for my own good and to maintain the standards I set for myself. I am glad that my lecturers have so much faith in me and have given me a lot of opportunities to shine."

Life after ITE

Meow Kiang is pursuing a Diploma in Electronics and Computer Engineering in Nanyang Polytechnic.

Top Achievements

- Meow Kiang and her team clinched the Silver Award in International Exhibitions for Young Inventors (IEYI) Competition 2022 and a Commendation Award in the Green Wave Environmental Care Competition 2022 for their energy-saving project titled 'Smart Electricity Energy Meter'.
- For her excellent academic performance and conduct, Meow Kiang attained several awards including a Certificate of Merit (2022), Edusave Character Award (2022), EAGLES Award (2022 & 2023), and Edusave Merit Bursary Award (2022 & 2023).
- Hardworking and motivated, Meow Kiang achieved a Grade Point Average of 3.8 at graduation. She was also on Director's List in 2021 and 2022.
- She participated in over 20 different enrichment activities, including Dialogue in the Dark, East Coast GRC Post-National Day Rally Dialogue, Youth Mental Webinar, Building Resilience Dialogue and SG Green Plan.

LEE KUAN YEW MODEL STUDENT AWARD 2023 RECIPIENT PROFILE
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Name: Liu Yang Feng
Course: *Higher Nitec* in Electrical Engineering
College: ITE College East

Playing to His Strengths

Liu Yang Feng was lost when he did not get into his preferred course at polytechnic. However, after determining his strengths and interests, he took up the *Higher Nitec* in Electrical Engineering at ITE, which turned out to be one of the best decisions he had ever made. He appreciated the fact that his modules were highly relevant to what is being practised in the industry and they helped in his work performance during industrial attachment.

When he was attached to Sembcorp's floating solar farm, Yang Feng took it upon himself to solve technical problems and faults at the farm. He also went the extra mile to study and learn the benefits of the solar farm to share on its importance with others.

In ITE, Yang Feng chose to challenge himself by serving in the Student Council Executive Committee. As the Chairman of Student Well-Being, he was responsible for the welfare of student councillors during events. He also led in initiatives related to sustainability, mental health, and the environment, such as the CNA Green Plan Challenge, World Mental Health Day events and Beach Cleaning campaign.

From the Heart

"ITE provided me with an authentic learning experience, allowing me to learn and practise with equipment that are of industrial standards so that I have relevant skills when I enter the industry. ITE has also given me many opportunities that I never thought I would have. Be it being a Chairman in the Student Council or participating in various competitions, these opportunities allowed me to improve myself and be where I am today; and for that, I will always be grateful to ITE."

Life after ITE

Yang Feng is pursuing a Diploma in Electrical and Electronics Engineering at Singapore Polytechnic.

Top Achievements

- Yang Feng and his teammate won the first prize in Sembcorp-EMA Energy Challenge 2021 (ITE category) where the duo played a simulation game on conserving power and electricity. The pair also bagged the third place in the overall category.
- For creating a social media campaign on reducing carbon footprint, Yang Feng's team won the Channel NewsAsia Green Plan Challenge 2022, a contest for students to implement projects that will support Singapore's Green Plan 2030.
- Yang Feng was the Head of Finance and Administration in a team that raised funds for Bethesda Care Services (BCS), under the YMCA Youth for Causes (YFC) programme. Through hard work and dedication, his team raised an impressive \$100,000 for BCS.
- A diligent and exemplary student, he was on Director's List in 2021 & 2022 and attained Edusave Merit Bursary Award 2021, EAGLES Award 2022 and Edusave Character Award 2022.

LEE KUAN YEW MODEL STUDENT AWARD 2023 RECIPIENT PROFILE
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Name: Lee Ming Zhea
Course: Nitec in Infocomm Technology
College: ITE College West

Transformed from Within

From Lee Ming Zhea's stellar academic performance and gentle demeanor, it is hard to believe that he used to skip classes. In 2017, Ming Zhea enrolled in a cloud computing course at ITE but did not fare well as he was more interested in gaming then. After graduation, he chose to serve National Service (NS) and that was a turning point in his life. During NS, interaction with peers who had clear goals motivated Ming Zhea to plan for his future, too. Through self-reflection, he identified Infocomm Technology as his interest and resolved to acquire more knowledge and skills in this field.

After NS, a mature Ming Zhea returned to ITE with vigour and transformed into a role model student in attendance, conduct, discipline and grades. Juggling three demanding CCAs – Mega ICT Club, Student Council and ACE Club, he managed his time by referring to an online calendar daily to prioritise his tasks. His efforts paid off as he excelled in his course and all CCAs. From a clueless teenager to a highly driven and systematic youth, Ming Zhea's marked change and ensuing success encouraged others to work hard towards achieving their goals.

From the Heart

"In my two years, I was a do-er. I grew a lot by doing many things. I'm quite shy so I'm always a follower but my lecturers encouraged me to step out of my comfort zone and become a leader. I had to guide my juniors and CCA members, and even emcee many events. I'm very grateful for the many opportunities that were given to me. I think it is all about grasping every opportunity that comes along and making the best out of it."

Life after ITE

Ming Zhea is pursuing a Diploma in Common ICT at Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

Top Achievements

- Ming Zhea achieved a perfect Grade Point Average of 4 and was on the Director's List in 2022.
- He received several awards such as the Government Investment Corporation (GIC) Study Grant, Edusave Character Award 2022, Edusave Merit Bursary 2022 & 2023 and EAGLES Awards 2022 & 2023.
- He was commended for his invaluable contributions to his CCAs and presented with ITE College West's 21st Century Diamond Award 2022 and 21st Century Gold Award 2021.
- As the Chairman of his Class EXCO, he led in class activities and even designed the class' jacket.
- Ming Zhea volunteered in several community service projects, including being the overall person in-charge of distributing care packs at Fei Yue Senior Activity Centre.
- At ITE-VTC International Student Seminar 2022, Ming Zhea and his team used Unity software, a metaverse application, to create and conceptualise a 3D virtual immersive classroom, which was presented to 600 guests.

LEE KUAN YEW MODEL STUDENT AWARD 2022 RECIPIENT PROFILE
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Name: Muhammad Fariqiel Jannah Bin Ghabi
Course: *Nitec* in Pastry & Baking
College: ITE College West

Hitting the Sweet Spot

A shiny silver medal takes pride of place on Muhammad Fariqiel Jannah Bin Ghabi's shelf at home. This award, by the Food & Hotel Asia (FHA) Culinary Challenge 2022, reminds Fariqiel that he has come full circle. He obtained ITE's *Nitec* in Western Culinary Arts and a Diploma in Fine Arts (Photography) from Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts before serving National Service. He then worked in the Food & Beverage line. When work came to a halt due to the COVID-19 pandemic, he decided to upgrade his skills.

At the age of 29, Fariqiel reignited his interest in baking by enrolling in *Nitec* in Pastry & Baking course. The course suited him to a tee as he excelled in all areas of the pastry and baking trade. He was even chosen to represent ITE in the FHA Culinary Challenge 2022 (Artistic Sculpture – Chocolate). With an inclination towards the arts and aesthetics, Fariqiel channelled his eye for composition and details into perfecting his chocolate showpiece and won a silver award!

Out of the kitchen, Fariqiel displayed strong leadership qualities as the President of ACE Club, Class Chairman and a student mentor. Unlike his peers, Fariqiel took a longer academic route but is now on the right track to realise his dream of being a pastry chef. He is living testament that passion, resilience and hard work will eventually lead to a sweet ending.

From the Heart

"Trust the timing of your life. When things don't go your way at the moment, keep a level head, push forward, and things will eventually fall into place. I used to struggle with self-doubts because of dyslexia. I couldn't believe it when I achieved GPA 4 in my first semester! So it is important to persevere through challenges. You will be rewarded in due course!"

Life after ITE

- Fariqiel is pursuing a *Higher Nitec* in Pastry & Baking at ITE. His dream is to open a café in future.

Top Achievements

- Fariqiel was on the Director's List 2021 & 2022 and achieved a Certificate of Merit upon graduation.
- As an intern at Les Amis, he was commended with a Certificate of Service for Excellent Performance & Conduct. His nifty knife work in slicing bread impressed the Head Chef so much that he was selected to be involved in an event the restaurant was invited to.
- He received the Edusave Merit Bursary 2022 & 2023, EAGLES 2022 & 2023, Edusave Character Award 2022 and ITE College West's 21st Century STAR Award 2022 (Diamond)
- Fariqiel was part of the team which led in two significant community service activities – Youth Expedition Project Goes Online (YEP-GO) that involved virtual teaching of Microsoft Word to youths from the Philippines, and Soap for Hope project where the team imparted soap-recycling skills to villagers in Malaysia.

LEE KUAN YEW MODEL STUDENT AWARD 2023 RECIPIENT PROFILE
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Name: Yeo Jing Xuan Jaclyn
Course: *Nitec in Mechatronics & Robotics*
College: ITE College West

Love for Robotics

For Jaclyn, the decision to stay on the engineering path came naturally after her first encounter with robotics through her CCA Club in secondary school. When an opportunity arose for Jaclyn to move into Normal (Academic) stream in Secondary 2, she turned it down to take up the Mobile Robotics module, which was only offered in the Normal (Technical) stream.

In ITE, Jaclyn continued to pursue her interest in robotics and did well in her studies, ranking as one of the top students in her cohort. She took part in projects and competitions, such as the ITE-Vocational Training Council International Student Seminar, where her team showcased a mobile application they designed that can help visually impaired people read signages. Her team also bagged a Merit Award for their innovation in delivering the smallest indoor vertical hydroponic system using the 'Nutrient Film Technique' at the Green Wave Environmental Care Competition 2022. The same project placed the team as one of the 10 recipients of the Lee Kuan Yew Technology Award 2023.

One who is not afraid to fail, Jaclyn seized every opportunity made available to expand her learning horizons. She participated actively in CCAs, contributing in leadership roles such as Class Representative, Student Mentor and Peer-Supporter, and Student Councillor. Her focus, drive and commitment to excel, as well as her willingness to help others earned the respect of her peers. She is an exemplary leader and a valuable member of the school community.

From the Heart

"Failure is a part of life and learning how to deal with it is key to achieving greatness. Remember that every failure is an opportunity to learn and grow. Don't let fear hold you back from taking risks and pursuing your dreams. Stay persistent and keep pushing forward, even when faced with setbacks. Believe in yourself and know that with hard work and determination, you can overcome any obstacle. So, embrace failure and use it as a stepping stone to reach new heights of success and excellence."

Life after ITE

- Jaclyn is pursuing a Diploma in Mechatronics and Robotics at Singapore Polytechnic.

Top Achievements

- For her excellent academic performance and conduct, Jaclyn attained several awards including the 21st Century Star Award (2022), Edusave Character Award (2020 & 2021) and EAGLES Award (2020 & 2021).
- She was placed on the Director's List in 2021 and 2022 for achieving a perfect Grade Point Average of 4.0.
- Jaclyn served as Vice-President of ITE College West's Student Council, organising many activities that served local communities, and benefitted the student population in ITE College West.

LEE KUAN YEW MODEL TRAINEE AWARD 2023 RECIPIENT PROFILE
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Name: Eng Kai Teng Janita
Course: *Higher Nitec* in Service Management (Traineeship)
College: ITE College West/Lifesystems Chiropractic Pte Ltd

Serving with Passion

Twenty-one-year-old Janita Eng considers herself a late bloomer. While she was aimless in secondary school, her good performance in her *Nitec* in Retail course encouraged her to stay on track and achieve more. After *Nitec*, the independent youth enrolled in the *Higher Nitec* in Service Management course in traineeship mode to gain industry exposure in a clinical setting.

A role model for trainees, she embraces a service mindset while juggling work and study effectively. As a Customer Success Specialist at Lifesystems Chiropractic Pte Ltd, Janita's job scope requires her to perform administrative tasks, manage customer touchpoints, attend to patients' needs and assist patients in treatment and therapy sessions. She impressed both her employer and its patients with her professional work ethics and interpersonal skills.

Janita formulated a clear goal to pursue nursing as a career. She felt that it was important to learn all aspects of patient management first to understand the job demands in nursing. She is confident that her traineeship experience has put her in good stead as she transits from service wellness to the healthcare sector. With the money she has saved up from traineeship, she has progressed to study nursing at diploma level.

Foresight, determination and careful planning are key attributes that set Janita apart. One will not doubt Janita's competency to rise above challenges and build the future she envisions for herself – serve and make a meaningful impact in people's lives, especially in their moments of vulnerability.

From the Heart

"Just be yourself. Ignore the negativity that may abound in tough circumstances and people around you. As long as you're willing to work hard, you will be rewarded with success."

Life after ITE

Janita secured an Early Admissions Exercise placement in nursing at Ngee Ann Polytechnic. She is one step closer to realising her dream career in nursing.

Top Achievements

- The business owner of Lifesystems Chiropractic Pte Ltd was very satisfied with Janita's overall performance at work. In the last term of her traineeship programme, she was graded 96 per cent in the second half of the term with a cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.4.
- Prior to joining the traineeship programme, she volunteered in Willing Hearts Soup Kitchen where she prepared food for the needy.
- In 2020, when Janita worked part-time at Raffles City Market Place, she received the 'Putting Customers First' Award based on positive customer feedback. She was then appointed as an onsite mentor to new employees.

**LEE KUAN YEW CCA AWARD 2023
RECIPIENT PROFILE**

Name: Lingesh S/O Scahuvanantham
Course: Nitec in Business Administration
College: ITE College Central

A Shining Light

Lingesh finds joy in putting a smile to people's faces. This fuels his passion in volunteerism, and motivates him to help those in need. Lingesh developed a keen interest in volunteerism, after joining ITE College Central's Rotaract Club. Establishing his leadership qualities, he rose to become the Club's President and helmed numerous community service projects.

His passion to make a difference took him to Cambodia, where he helped to refurbish schools and teach English to local children. He also joined the Youth Corps Leaders Programme and executed a campaign to promote recycling in Punggol.

Despite being diagnosed with dyslexia, Lingesh never allowed it to limit his potential. He seeks to constantly improve himself and aims to start a business that contributes to society. This spurred him to join the Student Council to develop his leadership skills, as well as the Investment Club and Entrepreneurship Club to expand his financial knowledge.

From the Heart

"At ITE, I learned to be a better leader and person. I also received strong support from lecturers, who guided me and gave me opportunities to grow. One of them is Mr Lim Wei Peng. He would constantly check on my well-being and offer me life advice. He was also the first person at ITE to recognise my strength. He told me that I was the most hardworking student in class. That was very encouraging. It made me realise that one does not have to be the smartest to succeed. With strong discipline and willpower, we can achieve our goals."

Life after ITE

Lingesh is currently pursuing the Diploma in Business Studies at Ngee Ann Polytechnic. He plans to take a degree in Business after attaining his Diploma, and aspires to set up his own business in the future.

Top Achievements

- By selling ice pops and keychains, Lingesh led his Rotaract Club members to raise about \$1,800 for a Children's Day event that they organised with the Central Singapore Community Development Council. The funds were used to purchase gifts for 100 underprivileged children.
- He spearheaded a fundraising initiative involving the sale of mask straps, which raised about \$5,000 for the purchase of new windows and doors for schools in Cambodia.
- For his outstanding service contributions, he received the ITE Service Star Diamond Award in 2022.
- Pitching reusable dental floss picks as a business concept, Lingesh led a team to finish second and win the Best Pitcher Award at the 2022 School Sustainability Challenge organised by Junior Achievement Singapore.
- Based on the same business idea, he led another team to finish third in the 2022 Junior Achievement Company of the Year competition.

**LEE KUAN YEW CCA AWARD 2023
RECIPIENT PROFILE**

Name: Tasneem Binte Mohamad Hisam
Course: *Higher Nitec* in International Logistics
College: ITE College East

Charismatic Leadership

Tasneem is a familiar face at ITE College East. She served as the Deputy President of the College's Student Council and spearheaded several student-centric activities to enrich campus life. Apart from being a strong supporter of College projects, Tasneem volunteered her service at many community projects, grassroots and national-level events, such as the SG Perspective 2022, Launch of NTUC Youth Taskforce & Career Symposium and YMCA Youth For Causes (YFC) 2022, to name a few. She is also the voice of her generation, participating in various political forums with the likes of Deputy Prime Minister Lawrence Wong and Second Minister for Education Dr Maliki Osman.

Despite the demands placed upon her leadership, Tasneem remained focused in her studies and yielded consistently good grades. She was identified to join the College's ACE Club for academic achievers where she actively participated and contributed in its programme. To Tasneem, the drive to give her best in everything was not gaining popularity or acting on adrenaline to perform but a sincere desire to be an ambassador of goodwill. The charismatic leader is always available to lend a helping hand, be it mentoring a junior on events management, helping a coursemate in studies or serving the community.

From the Heart

"Stay true to your values, lead with integrity and compassion, and never be afraid to be yourself. Embrace new adventures and let your unique perspective shine, for it is the authentic expression of who you are that will inspire and uplift those around you."

Life after ITE

Tasneem is currently pursuing the Diploma in International Trade & Business at Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

Top Achievements

- As Deputy President (External Affairs, EXCO) of the Student Council, Tasneem organised/participated in almost 50 events and earned the Service Star Award (Diamond) 2022 for her outstanding contributions.
- Her team's proposal to YMCA Youth for Causes (YFC) 2022 was selected to receive a seed funding of \$1,200 to champion a social cause. The team was tasked to organise an online fundraising campaign to raise awareness and funds for Bethesda Care Services. They raised \$103,018.35 (including the matching grant), the highest amount recorded since ITE College East Student Council's maiden participation in 2018. In recognition, the team was awarded the YFC Distinction Award, YFC Best Fundraiser Award and the YFC Best Fund Management Award.
- Tasneem led her team in joining the Channel NewsAsia Green Plan Challenge 2022. To raise awareness on and share ways to reduce carbon footprint, they created a dedicated Instagram account and ran a #BeatTheHeat campaign, emerging as the winner of the Challenge!

**LEE KUAN YEW CCA AWARD 2023
RECIPIENT PROFILE**

Name: Choh Bao Ngoc Betty
Course: Nitec in Travel & Tourism Services
College: ITE College West

Servant Leader

Betty Choh was a student leader in secondary school but it was only in ITE that she learnt how to be an effective leader. As the President of ITE College West's Student Council, she led her team in organising numerous in-campus and outreach activities in the community. Instead of adopting an autocratic style, Betty took a consultative stance by gathering inputs from fellow members before making major decisions. This leadership style won praises from her peers and rallied them to give their best for every event.

During the Student Management Dialogues in 2021 and 2022, Betty had to helm the programme, solicit views from fellow students on societal issues as a facilitator and even emcee the event. She used to shy away from the limelight but now she can better manage her stage fright and address a crowd confidently. Betty believes in leading by example so she hopes her actions can guide people and future projects to success.

From the Heart

"I gave my ExCo team the freedom to speak up, share opinions and suggest fresh ideas and new ways of doing things. It is important for a leader to give others a voice and listen actively. This is how we discover new possibilities together!"

Life after ITE

She is currently pursuing the Diploma in Hospitality & Tourism Management at Nanyang Polytechnic. After obtaining a diploma, she has plans to work in the tourism industry or further her studies in a related field.

Top Achievements

- Besides Student Council summits, camps and meetings, Betty participated in several events such as the Engagement Session with Education Minister Chan Chun Sing, REACH Supervisory Panel, Let Her Shine! Woman Development Initiative, Singapore Perspective 2022 Conference, NS55 Discussion Forum, Credit Suisse Mentoring Programme, Service Leader Training and Class Exco Training (Jan 2022 Intake).
- She was part of an exclusive five-member student team that created social media content for Education Minister Chan's post on his visit to ITE College West.
- A diligent student, Betty did well in her studies and was on the Director's List 2021.
- She is a recipient of Edusave Merit Bursary 2021 and 2022, EAGLES Award 2021 and 2022, and Edusave Character Award 2022.
- A keen volunteer, Betty initiated a community service project on cleaning up a park, in collaboration with Imran Volunteer Network, a non-profit organisation.
- She also participated in Junior Achievement (JA) Travel and Tourism Business Programme (TTBiz), a competition that allows students from Japan, Philippines, Singapore and South Korea to form cross-cultural virtual teams in creating travel itineraries to Japan.